

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

523 Respondent's Exhibit No. 15 A

OFFICE OF Natl. LEAD Co.

4/24/47 WITNESS WORMSER

ELECTROREPORTER, INC. Official Reporter

By WEINER

September 21, 1920

William J. Donovan, Esq.,
Assistant to the Attorney General,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of September 17th which was mailed to an old address of mine and only reached me today.

The proposed Lead Industries Association had its inception in a feeling among producers and consumers of lead that something might be done cooperatively to combat the substitution of other metals and products for lead, which has seriously affected the outlet for the metal; furthermore, that old uses of lead might be increased and new uses found; that better statistical information regarding lead than is now available could be gathered through an association of producers and consumers; and, lastly, that an organization such as we propose to form could do much to decrease the prevalence of occupational diseases due to lead in industry.

With these objects in mind a tentative draft of a Constitution and By-Laws for the proposed association was drafted, a copy of which is enclosed, and steps were taken, and are being taken, to inquire as to the attitude of producers and consumers of lead in the United States towards the project.

Inasmuch as we are not yet formally organized I am unable to supply you with a list of members, but will say that the association promises to have the approval of a substantial proportion of the lead mining, smelting, and manufacturing companies of the United States.

A tentative program of contemplated statistical work was drafted this summer, a copy of which is also enclosed. We propose to gather statistical information similar to that now collected by the Department of Commerce but to make the statistics of greater commercial value by gathering them more frequently and distributing them more promptly than the Department of Commerce has been doing.

Neither the enclosed Constitution and By-Laws nor the statistical schedule have been formally subscribed to by any

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Wm. J. Donovan

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prospective member of the Lead Industries Association.

It was, and is, our intention to submit to you, and to the Federal Trade Commission, all the details of the proposed organization after these details have been finally determined and have received the endorsement of the prospective membership. Our affairs are naturally still in a state of flux.

If there are any points not covered by this letter, upon which you wish further information, please let me know. If you care to have me do so, I shall be glad to come down to Washington to discuss the subject with you in person.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
Receivd by [initials]
Respondent's Exhibit No. 15B

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